St. Patrick Catholic Church

September 24, 2023 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

235 Chapel Street Grass Valley CA 95945 Phone: (530) 273-2347

Office Hours
Mon - Fri: 9:00 - 2:00 PM



stpatrickgrassvalley.org

info@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

facebook.com/stpatrickgv/

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Weekday Mon - Sat 8:30 AM

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM

1:00 PM (Español)

Daily Rosary 7:40 AM

Divine Mercy Mon, Tu, & Fri after Rosary

Devotion to Our Lady Wed after Rosary Liturgy of the Hours Thurs after Rosary

For anointings, hospital visits, and communion visits, please call parish office.

Adoration

 1st Thursday
 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

 Friday
 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

 1st Sunday
 2:00 - 7:00 PM

3rd Sunday 2:00 - 6:00 PM

Rosary & Adoration
Tuesday Rosary @ 5:30 PM

day Rosary @ 5:30 PM Adoration 6:00 –7:00

Confession

Tuesday 7:30 AM-8:15 AM Friday 5:00 PM-6:00 PM Saturday 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Clergy and Staff

Fr. Alexander Estrella Fr. Jossy Vattothu CMI Richard Soria

James Chatigny Brian Moore

Edee Wood
Deacon Rick Soria
Ruth Collins Smith
Maria Beltran
Traci Jagger
Kellen Lake
Fr. Alexander Estrella
Colleen Deneen

John Evans

Pastor Parochial Vicar Deacon

Deacon (retired) Deacon (retired)

Principal, Mt St. Mary's
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Bookkeeper
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Hispanic Ministry
Music Director
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PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Family,

While I was away on pilgrimage I learned about BI. Bartolo Longo. I was fascinated by his story and so I share it with you.

Bartolo was born to a devout Catholic family near Brindisi, in southern Italy. He was a brilliant, though mischievous kid, who began to lose his way at the age of ten after his mother died. His adolescence was a time of great upheaval in his country, when Garabaldi was seeking to eliminate the papal city states and unite Italy. By the time Bartolo entered the University of Naples law school, many of his professors were ex-priests preaching nationalist venom against the Church. He was quickly caught up in their fervor.

In his confusion and emptiness, without God to turn to, he began to visit some of Naples' infamous mediums. That was his introduction into the occult. Soon, his thirst for the supernatural led him into outright Satanism, where after a period of intense study and such rigorous fasting that he was reduced to skin and bones, he was consecrated a satanic priest and promised his soul to a demon. For the next year, he began to preside over satanic services and to preach more boldly and blasphemously against God and the Church — treating them, in a diabolical reversal, as the real evils.

His family back home tried to talk to him about the path he had chosen, to no avail. They began to pray and to ask for help from whoever might lend a hand. Professor Vincenzo Pepe, a solidly Catholic professor at the university, responded. He began to meet with Bartolo. Professor Pepe eventually convinced him to see a Dominican priest, who after three weeks of lengthy conversations, on the feast of the Sacred Heart in 1865, was able to welcome him back into the Church and give him absolution.

To keep an eye on him, Professor Pepe allowed Bartolo to move in with him and started to surround him with faithful and dedicated Catholics. Each day for two years, as a voluntarily-imposed penance, Bartolo worked in the Neapolitan Hospital for Incurables. He prayed. He became a third-order Dominican. He made a promise of celibacy to serve God with an undivided heart. He sought to do reparation for his scandal by returning to his Satanist hangouts, holding up the Rosary and publicly renouncing his former ways.

But he still despaired. He couldn't forgive himself or see how God could ever forgive him. One day, while fulfilling some legal business in Pompeii for his client Countess Mariana di Fusco, and seeing how great was the people's poverty, ignorance, moral corruption and dependence on witchcraft, God helped him to see both how he could be saved and how he could spend his life saving others.

He spent the whole rest of his life, beginning in Pompeii, propagating the Rosary and imitating the mysteries it contained. With the financial support of the Countess, he built Pompeii's famous Basilica of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, founded elementary schools and orphanages, inaugurated a print shop and technical school to give the children of convicted criminals the chance of a better life. He wrote books on the Rosary, composed novenas and prayer manuals. The former Satanist eventually became a friend of Pope Leo XIII, who had a great devotion to the Rosary. From Pompeii he also began the popular movement that led to the solemn dogmatic proclamation of the Assumption in 1950.

Your Father in Christ,

Father Estrella



WE PRAY FOR:

Geri Lampman, Richard Tumilty, Juan Gutierrez, Kathy Smith, Michaels family, Diana Boyarsky, Vida Santos, Bonnie Burke, Pat Chargin, Diane Damron, Marilyn & Tom Falls, Cathie Fideli, Gary & Linda Grube, Jack Harris, Jeff Hill, Linda Kilass, Dee Lavrador, Wayne McHone, John Mercurio, Kathleen Montavon, Susan Roberts, Chuck Ryan, Frank Santos, Larry Schmidt, Stella Spring...and their families.

Names are automatically included for 3 months, please call the office if you would like a different time frame.

NATIONAL LIFE CHAIN: OCTOBER 1, 2023



On one Sunday in October, churches nationwide gather to take a public stand and pray to end abortion. Participants hold a sign with a life-affirming message while they stand quietly and pray. Bring chairs for the elderly, hats, sunscreen, your rosary, and water.

When: Sunday, October 1, 2023 2:15-3:45pm. Signs will be available at tables.

<u>Where:</u> On the sidewalk along the road in front of the old K-Mart parking lot and extending to Raley's – every 10-20 feet apart.

We will stand in silent prayer from 2:30-3:30pm. Your prayers and your presence will speak loudly-more than words possibly can.

Creation Care Team:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 26th from 6:30-7:30 PM @ Bobbie's home







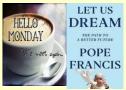
Consider replacing some of your lawn with trees or large shrubs. Their woody structures provide excellent carbon storage over many years.

Trees in U.S. urban and community areas store 1.4 billion tons of carbon, and continually take up more than 26 million tons a year. (Washington State University study)

Open House after all Sunday Masses today! Proudly sponsored by MSM students and staff, and the St. Patrick's Creation Care Team. Please see the flyer in this bulletin for more information.

Book Club Gathering

Monday, September 25, 2023



All Parishioners are invited to a meeting of the St. Patrick and St. Canice Book Club on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 1:30 P. M. in the Small Hall. We will be discussing Let Us Dream: The Path to a Better Future, by Pope Francis. The discussion, which will last about an hour and a half, will be led by Michael Moreland. The book is available at your favorite book store or online. In



September 17 — \$6,278

Your generosity to St. Patrick Church is greatly appreciated. Donations can be placed in baskets during the collection at Mass, mailed to the office, or online through faithdirect.net (Code: CA1104).

2nd collection

September 24
Parish Restoration

MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAN POSITION



We are looking to recruit a custodian for St. Canice Church. The role is 5-10 hours a week.

For more details and a job description, please email Father Estrella at:

frestrella@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

Catholic Ladies Relief Society presents the ANNUAL COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIR



Saturday, November 4 from 9am-4pm & Sunday, November 5 from 8:30am-1:00pm

> 25 local artisans displaying crafts of art, weaving, paper art, quilting, knitting, clothing, antiques, soaps, jewelry and more! Unique holiday gifts for everyone!

Enjoy lunch at our craft kitchen serving, soup, salad and beverages! There will also be a homemade bake sale with cookies packaged to take home! Enter the raffle to win a basket overflowing with holiday season items!!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 8 after 7:30am, 9:00am and 11:00am masses.

LUAU TICKETS ON SALE

St. Canice Church Lugu Dinner



The St. Canice Men's Guild Annual Luau Dinner is coming October 1st at St. Canice Center. Doors will open at 4:00 PM and dinner will be at 5:00 PM.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$7 for children 5-11.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Hebert at jkjhebert@comcast.net or 916-508-5744.

CULTURE OF LIFE

October is Respect Life Month and Down Syndrome Awareness Month



"The enemies of life know that to destroy Christian civilization, they must first destroy the family at its weakest point – the child. And among the weakest, they must choose the least protected of all-Down syndrome among the weakest, they must choose the least protected of all - the child who has never been seen; the child who is not yet known or loved in the usual meaning of the word; who has not yet seen the light of day; who cannot even cry out in distress." - Venerable

The Venerable Dr. Jerome Lejeune, a French Catholic doctor and world class geneticist, linked Down Syndrome to the presence of an extra copy of chromosome 21 back in 1958. The condition had been recognized for 100 years but until then the cause was unknown. Dr. Lejeune had hoped to find a cure or treatment for Down Syndrome and was heartbroken when his discoveries were being used for prenatal diagnosis and that abortion became the recommended "treatment" for Down Syndrome pre-borns. Once praised and rewarded for his scientific breakthrough, he was later shunned by the medical community as he lobbied against pro-abortion laws and defended the sanctity of human life. Dr. Jerome Lejeune was declared Venerable by the Vatican on the eve of the anniversary of Roe v Wade January 21, 2021.

CORNERSTONE RETREAT FOR MEN

NOVEMBER 10th AND 11th

Join us for 26 hours that can change and deepen your relationship with Our Lord. This retreat gives each of us the opportunity to see God's loving hand in our lives, and how, as Catholic men, we touch the lives of the people we love. Set aside the burdens of your life and through the stories, prayer and fellowship rest in



Our Lord's arms and learn from Him. It will be the best gift you can give not only yourself, but also to your family.



Not sure about your role as a Lay Catholic?



Learn about your vital mission in the Church with the Lay Mission Project. Visit laymission.net

← OR SCAN HERE

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Five Key Concepts to the Stewardship Way of Life:

- 1. What does Stewardship mean? "Stewardship is the grateful response of a Christian disciple who recognizes and receives God's gifts and shares his gifts and love of God and Neighbor." We all show our gratitude in how we live, not just by what we say.
- 2. "God made everything!" Recognizing God as the creator of everything is one the most basic beliefs of all Christians. It is the key to understanding Stewardship.
- 3. Stewardship leads to holiness. The path to holiness is a called discipleship, to be imitators of Jesus Christ.
- 4. Stewardship builds intentional disciples of Christ. Bishop Jim Golka of the diocese of Colorado Springs, once commented, "Parish life should not be like a country club. A parish should be an arena, where a group of believers gather together and take on the attitude of Christ."



5. Bishop John McRaith is quoted in the pastoral letter from USCCB Bishops on Stewardship, "Once one chooses to become a disciple of Jesus Christ, Stewardship is not an option." The Bishops' letter clearly stated that Stewardship is a Way of Life, forever.

©Catholic Stewardship Consultants: www.CatholicSteward.com

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Wednesday, September 27th @ 6:00 PM

Potluck Dinner in the Small Hall

If you find yourself alone and don't care
to go solo to dine, see movies, travel,
etc. then you are welcome to join the
"Circle of Friends". We would love to
have you join us! Call Ginny at 530-4321175 or Dolores at 530-263-6537 or
email escott place@sbcglobal.net, or
just come to our meeting.



JOIN US FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL ST. PATRICK AND ST. CANICE PARISH PICNIC, AN AFTERNOON OF FAMILY FUN!



WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

WHERE: Western Gateway Park Penn Valley

Bring your blankets, chairs, change of clothes for kids (who may want to play in the creek), and your favorite outdoor games and activities.

Lunch from 12:30-1:30pm Activities from 1:30-3:30pm Mass at 4:00pm

Dessert following Mass

Lunch, drinks, and dessert will be provided.

PLEASE NOTE:

THERE WILL NOT BE SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES OR CONFESSION AT EITHER CHURCH ON SATURDAY EVENING.

Baptizing Your Child this Fall?

Parent & Godparent Classes Need to be Scheduled



<u>Welcoming Class:</u> Friday Evening, October 13th In St. Patrick's Hall at 6:00pm <u>Baptismal Catechesis Class:</u> Saturday Morning, October 14th at 10:00am

Register at the Parish Office. For more information contact Deacon Rick at faithformation@stpatrickgrassvalley.org

Reflecting on the Gospel

Grapes grow riper and sweeter in the autumn days leading up to harvest. Many factors impact grape growth: air temperature, sun exposure, the health of other grapes in the cluster. Even the best laborers cannot plan the perfect picking day. Vineyards need workers who are nimble, attentive, and eager to embrace the unexpected—both when it comes to picking grapes and, as we see in today's gospel, in matters of money.

The first group of laborers in today's parable get stuck in binary thinking at payment time: Either you work a full day and get paid the usual wage, or you work part of the day and get paid part of the usual wage. But then they see the later hires get paid the full wage, and the first group makes an assumption: If those who work part of the day get the full wage, then those of us who work the full day will get the full wage plus a bonus. This thinking seems fair.

But the landowner rebukes this reasoning and through his actions, Jesus shows us once again: God is far too creative for binaries. God is far too mysterious for assumptions. Our God is a God of infinite possibilities, whose ways are high above the human ways to which we've grown accustomed. Our God cannot be tamed within the made up constructs of in or out, worthy or unworthy, last or first. Our God is near to all who call upon the divine name in truth, no matter if we got to work at the crack of dawn or right before quitting time. Through the landowner, Jesus shows us a God eager to break down the binaries and assumptions through which we so often operate, and to build up the dignity of every person.

BABY BOTTLE DROP OFF

First of all, thank you so very much for donating to the cause of helping women in our community that experience unexpected pregnancies, your donations provide many resources that help women to feel more confident in choosing to parent their child. Bottles can be filled with spare change, a check or currency.



Please do NOT leave bottles unattended in the church, they can disappear.

IF POSSIBLE, ALL BABY BOTTLES SHOULD BE RETURNED AT THE SEP 30 OR OCT 1 WEEKEND MASSES.

Bottles can be put in the basket outside of church before and after all Masses the weekend of Sep 30/Oct 1st. There will be a Culture of Life member there to collect them.

If you missed the weekend of September 30/October 1st, you'll have three options:

- 1. You can call or text Marilyn Peters at 530 913-6583 and arrange to have her pick up your bottle.
- 2. Bring your bottle to St. Patrick/St. Canice Office.
- 3. You can drop your bottle directly at LivingWell Medical clinic-105 Catherine Lane, Grass Valley. They are open Monday thru Thursday from 9-5.

Thank you for your support!

COMING UP THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Saint/Feast	Readings	Gospel	Mass Times	Intention
Mon	9/25	Saint Paphnutius of Alexandria	Ezr 1:1-6	Lk 8:16-18 (449)	8:30 am	Increase in Vocations
Tues	9/26	Saints Cosmas and Damian	Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14- 20	Lk 8:19-21 (450)	8:30 am	Marie Helm (D)
Wed	9/27	Saint Vincent de Paul	Ezr 9:5-9	Lk 9:1-6 (451)	8:30 am	Sister Wendy Mitchell (D)
Thurs	9/28	Saint Wenceslaus	Hg 1:1-8	Lk 9:7-9 (452)	8:30 am	Sharon Lolli (SI)
Fri	9/29	Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14	Jn 1:47-51 (647)	8:30 am	Dennis Lolli (SI)
Sat	9/30	Saint Jerome	Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a	Lk 9:43b-45 (454)	8:30 am 5:00 pm	Carolina Weber (SI) Katherine Brady (D)
Sun	10/1	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ez 18:25-28 Phil 2:1-11	Mt 21:28-32 (136)	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am	



Joy bursts in our lives when we go about doing the good at hand and not trying to manipulate things and times to achieve joy.

C. S. Lewis

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works

> Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ. Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son

One of my favorite spiritual writers is the Benedictine nun, Sister Joan Chittister. This reflection on joy is from her book Called to Question. Joy is such a beautiful gift we experience when we: "Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son."

"Sitting out in the middle of the channel in a little nineteen-foot fishing boat with ocean freighters and large sailboats passing us on both sides, I remember the wild & crazy joy of it: no desk, no phone, no speeches, no airplanes. Just four of us, a hot sun, an empty fish bucket, a parade of boats, & the rocking of the waves. I cast with all my might, caught the top of the channel light, &, laughing my heart out, cut free just in time to avoid wrapping the next sail in fishing line. Life, bare & simple, is a wonderful thing. How do we learn that? What does it mean for the spiritual life itself? We learn it by seeing it, I think When I was a young nun, in the days before the church had negotiated a kind of truce with the world & the monastery reflected the emotional sterility that the standoff implied, Sr Marie Claire, steadfastly opposed to the suppression of joy in the name of holiness, went to her music room every Sunday to listen to scores of operas, records of symphonies, collections of piano performances. We didn't go to concerts in those days, & only music teachers were allowed to have record players. She would sit in her rocking chair all afternoon & simply listen. I remember being very moved by the model of such bold & wanton delight in the face of such institutionalized negation of it. The lesson served me well. There are times in life when the only proper response to the dreary & the difficult is to ignore them. The person of hope, the person who knows that God is in the daily, knows joy.

Embodied love, with all the joy & pleasure & beauty it brings, has been made the great enemy of the spiritual life, as if learning to be dour were a dimension of sanctity. We were trained to beware the beautiful & the pleasurable, as if beauty & pleasure distracted us from the God who made the world beautiful & gave us all a capacity for pleasure. "There is no such thing as a sad saint," the poster says. Having come out of a Jansenist spirituality, it took me a little while to get beyond the sourness of sin to the delight of fishing boats & party times & wedding feasts at Cana. But I finally came to understand that there is no such thing as "loving God alone." If we love God, we love everything God made because all of them are reflections of the Love that made them.

To lust for joy is to lust for the God of life. To make joy where at first it seems there is none is to become cocreator with the God of life. When we make joy, we make a holier, happier life." Jesuit father Kevin O'Brien I think builds upon these last 2 paragraphs by Sr. Chittister. "Joy is a gift & like love, it is a mystery, defying easy description. Pope Francis reminds us: 'Joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially in moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts & changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.' Joy comes when we live out of the deepest sense of who we are, when we let God & others come close, when we offer our lives in the service of others, when we rest in the stillness & beauty of our world. The shore where joy waits is shaped by the river we travel on. It may look different to each of us but it is there, ready to welcome us."

> "Joy bursts in our lives when we go about doing the good at hand and not trying to manipulate things and times to achieve joy"



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